

## CHARTER OPPONENTS FIGHT TORRANCE CHILDREN WITH L.A. SCHOOL TEACHERS' MONEY

Ten thousand Los Angeles school teachers vs. the children of Torrance!

The sinister hand of Los Angeles city school politics aligned against the people of Torrance in their effort to provide better schools for their children through adoption Aug. 20 of the new City Charter was seen in a letter sent out by the Affiliated Teacher Organizations of Los Angeles on July 30, 1946.

Seeking to defeat the efforts of the people of Torrance to form their own Torrance Board of Education and school system, the letter was sent to all school teachers of the system, and one copy was forwarded to the Torrance Herald by a teacher who is in sympathy with the effort of the people of Torrance to control their own schools.

The letter asked for funds from the teachers to be used in defeating the City Charter, which will result in withdrawal of Torrance schools from the Los Angeles city school system, and it asked that the teachers align themselves with Mrs. John Garner, 803 Amapala ave., who, according to the letter, has been picked by the Los Angeles school teachers to direct their campaign against the people of Torrance and their children to secure control of the Torrance schools.

The communication was on the letterhead of the Affiliated Teacher Organizations of Los Angeles, 301 Embassy Auditorium Building, 847 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 14, Calif.

The organization "of more than 10,000 public school teachers of Los Angeles" is made up of the Elementary Teachers club.

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## Charter-School Issue First On Aug. 20 Ballot

Chairmen of two committees backing propositions on the Aug. 20 city election ballot, have issued statements asking the voters of Torrance not to confuse the issues on the ballot.

The question of the control of the schools of Torrance is embodied in the City Charter which will be the first item on the ballot, samples of which were mailed out this week.

It is only through the adoption of the City Charter, declared Dr. Howard A. Wood, chairman of the Charter Committee, that Torrance can take over its schools from control of Los Angeles.

"When you vote 'Yes' on the City Charter, you are voting 'Yes', we want to run and control our own schools for our own children and spend our own tax and state school support funds," Dr. Wood declared.

Russell Lund, chairman of the bond issue committee, said that the bond propositions are entirely separate from the school issue, and that they will be listed in Nos. 1 to 7, beneath the question of the charter. Each bond proposition is a separate issue, and requires a separate vote.

"This election was held concurrently with the charter election to save the taxpayers the expense of two elections," Lund said. Each bond proposition requires either a "yes" or "no" vote.

Reports of intimidation attempts aimed at the merchants of Torrance and persons whose names were included on the letter sent to all voters in support of the City Charter, on which the voters will pass Aug. 20 to give control of the schools of Torrance to the people of Torrance, have been received.

One minister whose name was on the letter sent out by the City Charter Committee, recently said that he had been called by several persons who attempted to sway him from his viewpoint that Torrance people should have the right to control the schools which educate their children.

Twenty merchants brought to the Charter Committee postcards sent out by one "Joe Sanchez" which attempted to convey the idea that shoeing strip children would be deprived of schools if Torrance votes in the City Charter, which automatically removes the schools from Los Angeles control.

"Where will they trade?" after they are "kicked out" of the Torrance schools?, the cards asked.

Members of the Charter Committee said that under the plans for withdrawal of Torrance schools from Los Angeles, the children of the shoeing strip will find the doors of the Torrance schools open to them, as they are now, if the Los Angeles board wishes to contract for the schooling of those children here.

ROSABELL WINS

In an exciting ball game as ever has been seen here, Rosabell Plumbers last night edged out Torrance American Legion, 5 to 4, in the fifth game of the 30-day Southern California Championship Baseball tournament. The score stood four-all for several innings until the ninth, when Rosabell scored the winning run. Tonight, the Long Beach Rockets meet the Iron Workers Union.



CROWDS THROG NEWBERRY OPENING . . . Pictured here are some of the thousands of persons who waited patiently for the reopening of the J. J. Newberry Co. store in Torrance, closed in the store clerks' union dispute of 10 months' duration which was settled by intervention of the Torrance Herald and San Pedro News-Pilot recently. The store opened July 31. (Torrance Herald photo)

## CONSTRUCTION OF 150 NEW HOMES IN PERRY DISTRICT TO START WITHIN 30 DAYS

Construction is due to start within 30 days on 150 new homes on the tract at 182nd st. and Hawthorne Blvd., North Torrance, it was announced yesterday by Thomas A. Johnson Co., who purchased the tract last week from F. A. Covington and associates.

The 34 acres of land will be improved with two and three-bedroom houses, and when construction starts, it will be at a rate of three foundations a day until the entire 150 new homes are under way, Johnson said.

The transaction was handled by William H. Tolson, realty broker and member of the City Council, who said that the reason that immediate construction can start is due to the fact that the land already is subdivided into 60 by 125-foot lots, thus eliminating the long delay of clearing plans through planning commissions. Several other Torrance tracts are being held up by this procedure, it was said.

Johnson, an architect who constructed some 800 homes in the Pacific Northwest during the war, owns his own lumber mill in the northwest and hardwood mill in the south.

He has all the materials on hand to complete the 150 new homes, according to Tolson.

The homes will add a population of approximately 600 to the North Torrance district and some 300 children to the Perry school district.

Perry school now has an average daily attendance of 141 children, and the increase which will come within a year from this new development will require a new building, it was said.

Development of the new tract also will speed establishment of the North Torrance bus line, according to Tolson.

## WARD QUILTS BUS MANAGER'S JOB AS SURVEY IS FILED; MURPHY TAKES OVER POST

Ending a political dispute of many years' duration, C. Z. Ward resigned as manager of the Torrance Municipal bus lines Tuesday night and W. H. Murphy was named traffic engineer for the city at a salary of \$500 a month pending Civil Service examination and appointment of a new manager.

## Redondo Beach Trustees Offer Cooperation

Answering allegations of Los Angeles school teachers and representatives who are opposing the Torrance City Charter, by which Torrance will assume control of the local schools now in the Los Angeles system, Redondo Beach Union high school board Saturday informed the Torrance Charter Committee that they would gladly assume the task of handling secondary students in the interim between organization of the Torrance school district and formation of the Torrance Unified school district should Torrance desire to affiliate with Redondo Beach temporarily.

Redondo Beach Union high school district would furnish teachers, books and equipment for use in the present Torrance high school building, it was said.

The meeting with the Redondo Beach board of trustees was arranged after charges had been made at public meetings on the City Charter in North Torrance.

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## Questions & Answers About Your Schools

VOTE "YES" ON CHARTER AUGUST 20

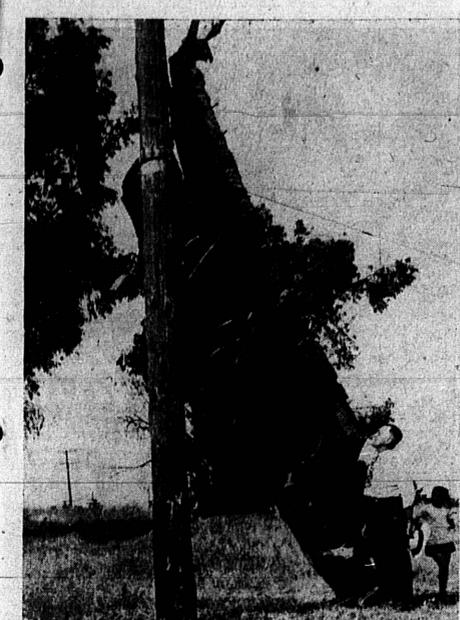
QUESTION: Much has been said about the cultural, scholastic and community advantage of having control of the schools of Torrance by the people of Torrance, backed by the wealth of the \$29,000,000 assessed valuation, but what about the taxes? Some of us consider those things more than others.

ANSWER: The cost of the schools has been one of the principal arguments in favor of the City Charter to be voted by the people of Torrance on Aug. 20. Torrance virtually has been "taxed double" under Los Angeles control, for hundreds of thousands of dollars of your money and mine, money which belongs to the schools of Torrance, has been spent in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles schools. We not only have no control over the school cost of operation, but the surplus is willfully taken away from us when our children are in need of those funds. Under Torrance control, it will be possible to reduce the tax rate for schools materially, after the first year of operation, and still have sufficient money for building new schools and paying cash for them. Yes, the taxes can be reduced to as low as \$1.19 per \$100 assessed valuation and still have a substantial fund for capital improvements on hand.

QUESTION: A postcard written in pencil by a person who calls himself "Joe Sanchez" was sent to my store saying the children of the shoeing strip will not have any schools after Torrance takes over the schools of this city from Los Angeles. That's not true, is it?

ANSWER: That is just typical intimidation being carried on by the school teachers of Los Angeles and their Torrance tools to beat your City Charter. You can read about it in the article and advertisement elsewhere in this edition. Yes, they still can go to Torrance schools, no matter what the Los Angeles school teachers say, on a contract basis with the Los Angeles schools.

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TORRANCE VISITOR . . . Police Chief John Stroh is pictured standing beside a section of the shattered wing tip of the giant C-74 that fell and burned near Avalon Blvd. and 223rd st. Monday afternoon. The portion that came to rest beside a telephone pole in a field near Torrance and Hawthorne blvds. was estimated at being 18 feet in length. Another section, which fell nearby, was the extreme tip. No one was reported injured by the falling pieces, the police chief said. (Torrance Herald photo)

## Torrance Gets Shower Of Airmen And Wing Parts Before Big Crash

Coming out of a test dive at a high altitude over the western section of Torrance early Monday afternoon, a giant Douglas troop-cargo plane known as the C-74, tore the outboard section of its right wing off and flew on to crash in a thunderous roar and a huge flash of flame near a million-gallon Texaco oil tank at 223rd st. and Avalon boulevard.

Test pilot Russell K. Thaw, George Janson, co-pilot; Chris Nielsen, flight engineer and H. H. Lane, observer, the four men aboard, parachuted to safety landing in both the east and west sections of Torrance.

Three of the men left the plane immediately following the mishap, with one landing barely more than half mile from where pieces of the wing tip, one of which measured approximately 18 feet, fell west of Hawthorne Blvd. and south of Torrance Blvd. on the C.C.M.O. oil lease.

The pilot was said to have been the last man out, landing on Western ave. between 214th and 215th streets.

After the men were clear of the plane, which was undergoing final tests before being turned over to the Army, the plane traveled on in an easterly direction, gradually losing altitude until it neared Alameda St., where witnesses said it fell easily on its right crippled wing and made a 180 degree turn before starting a wide spiral to earth.

One witness said: "The plane made such a nice easy gliding turn, that I thought someone was at the controls. Then it started to spiral downward until it hit the high-tension wires. From there on I could see nothing, for the big orange ball of flame and black smoke was blinding."

Large and small pieces were scattered over an area of one quarter mile with one of the engines embedded in a mound of earth only a few feet from the large oil tank. Another plunged over the wall and tore through the tank cover, sinking 30 feet to the bottom, a Texaco employee at the scene said.

The surrounding field was left looking like a battle ground ravaged from shell fire.

On the local front, where the airmen landed, many residents told of aiding the eligible "Caterpillar Club" members rid themselves of their chutes following their long ride earthward.

Leonard Swanson, 1662 W. 214th st., who helped the pilot from his parachute when he landed on Western ave., quoted the pilot as saying that the crew had stayed with the ship as long as possible and did all they could to avert the crash.

"I'm not hurt," the pilot said, "just suffering from shock—this was my first jump," he exclaimed, looking up into the great blue.

Swanson said the pilot desperately manipulated the shroud lines in a frantic attempt to miss the surrounding high lines and trees. One of the tree tops

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## Rotary Members Strongly For Separate Schools

Torrance Rotary club members are in favor of the adoption of the City Charter, it was revealed yesterday when the result of a secret poll of members was revealed by Robert McCallum, president.

The club found that 28 members were in favor of the charter and control of the schools of Torrance by the people of Torrance, with only two against.

The poll was taken at the request of members, it was said, to determine the standing of the Rotary club, the Kiwanis club and Lions club already having gone on record in favor of the City Charter and its automatic control of the schools of Torrance by the people of this city.

DRUNK DRIVERS

Appearing in City Court last week and pleading guilty to drunk driving, August J. Payne, 2708 Carson st., paid a fine of \$125, and James Ward, Santa Cruz, \$75. Both men were restricted from driving their cars for 30 days.

So Proudly We Hail (A Contributed Editorial)

Back in 1776 there were two factions. One group wanted relief from the so-called mis-rule of King George III and his Parliament; the other wanted to continue to bask under the domination of England. There was animosity and hatred between the two factions which boiled over into such pastimes as barn-burning, street brawls, coats of tar and feathers applied to hapless citizens, and tapered off into mere name calling, with such minor epithets as "Tories," or "rabble," depending upon the viewpoint of the individual.

Over the period of years from the beginning to the end of the struggle of the Colonies to free themselves from the rule of England, there was domestic turmoil in this country, which subsided only when the "rabble" emerged victorious. "Tories" left the country in droves to seek sanctuary in other lands still controlled by the English government.

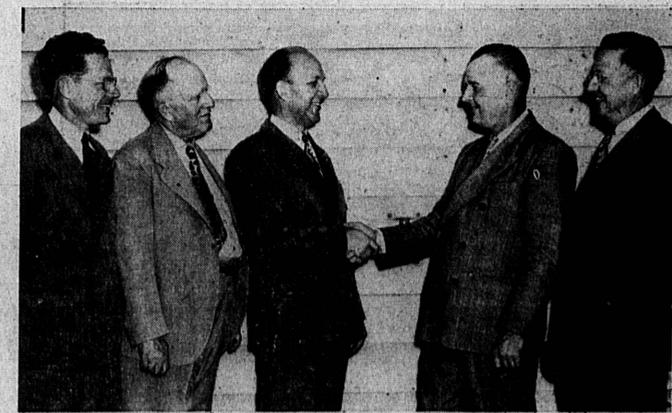
The "rabble" began to function as a nation, with many hardships, quarrels over procedure, differences of opinion, but the new nation in spite of all drawbacks grew and progressed, and in the short space of 150 years has shown the world an incredible spectacle—the mightiest nation on the face of the earth, self-sustained, capable of unlimited feats of progress, and able to lend a helping hand not only to any one nation but to all nations in need.

Torrance is now in the throes of an analogous civil war. There are those who wish to be free of the rule of the Los Angeles city school board; there are others who look to the Los Angeles board as the good provider, the god from whom all blessings flow, and they seek to tax with ingratitude their opponents who want to take over the reins of school business as a Torrance enterprise and charge them with forgetting all the years in which Los Angeles did provide the means, on Torrance money, of educating Torrance children.

"Tories" in 1776 accused the "rabble" of ingratitude and other things, for seeking to throw off England's domination. There had been years when the Colonies were struggling outposts and the aid of England was perhaps necessary.

But it was an aid that was grudgingly given along toward the last days, and always with an eye to the profits from Colonist enterprises. Just as in the case of Los Angeles vs. Torrance—the profits in these days when Torrance is a rich community are a big item, and an item that will not willingly be surrendered.

Ingratitude or not, it is time for Torrance to stand on its own feet, as did the "rabble" of 1776. To take over what is rightfully its own, and to carry the analogy further, to emerge in a few years with the best schools in the state, and who knows, perhaps in the nation. History provides the precedent, let Torrance citizens provide the means to capitalize on that precedent.



NEW PLANT WELCOMED . . . Having just received the keys to their new plant from officials of the War Assets Administration, officers of the newly-formed Andersen & Carlson Manufacturing Co. are shown above being greeted by local officials. Left to right, they are: Mayor J. Hugh Sherkey, Jr., Secretary Blaine Walker of the Chamber of Commerce, President Reed H. Parkin of the chamber, Arthur A. Andersen and Ernest M. C. Ison, president and vice-president, respectively, of the new company. The men are co-owners of the Automatic Screw Machine Co. in Los Angeles, war contractors who earned six Army-Navy "E" awards. The new plant, purchased for \$225,000, will get into production this year, employing 100 persons. The unit will manufacture thin-wall steel conduit and steel tubing. (Photo by Lee Weinstein)

## Council Orders Test On Building Department Job

Torrance City Council Tuesday night took over the task of locating a head of the Torrance Building Department by calling for a Civil Service examination for the job.

For many months there has been a clamoring for a separate building department in Torrance to speed construction of homes, and City Engineer G. M. Jain was authorized to interview men for appointment by the Council to the job.

Many have been interviewed, it was said, but reports from some of them indicated that they were discouraged from taking the job during interviews.

Therefore, the Council called for examination and placed the matter in the hands of the Civil Service Commission to find the best qualified man for the job. The Civil Service Commission works with the County Civil Service Board on such examinations.